



City of Huntington Beach Planning Department

STAFF REPORT

TO: Planning Commission
FROM: Scott Hess, AICP, Director of Planning
BY: Hayden Beckman, Planning Aide *HB*
DATE: March 24, 2009

SUBJECT: GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 09-001 (EDINGER STORM CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS)

APPLICANT: Public Works Dept., City of Huntington Beach, 2000 Main Street Huntington Beach, CA 92648

PROPERTY

OWNER: Orange County Flood Control District, 300 N. Flower Street, Santa Ana, CA 92702

LOCATION: Adjacent to the I-405 freeway between Newland Street and Edinger Avenue.

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

- ♦ General Plan Conformance No. 09-001 request:
 - To determine if proposed improvements to the existing Edinger Storm Channel is in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan.
- ♦ Staff's Recommendation: Approve General Plan Conformance No. 09-001 based upon the following:
 - The proposed project conforms to the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

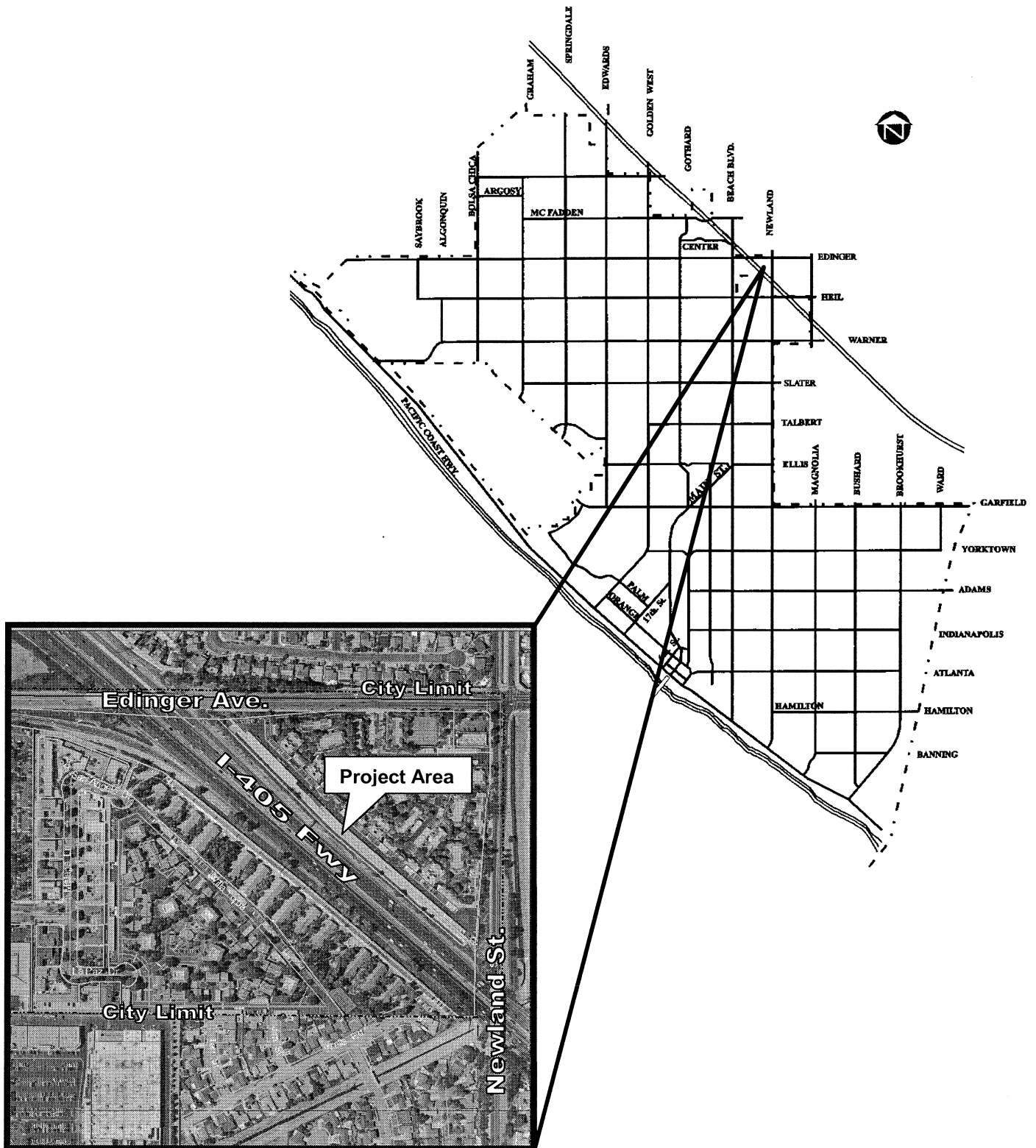
Motion to:

“Adopt Resolution No. 1630, approving General Plan Conformance No. 09-001 with findings (Attachment Nos. 1 and 2).”

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

The Planning Commission may take an alternative action such as:

“Deny General Plan Conformance No. 09-001 with findings for denial.”



VICINITY MAP
GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 2009-001
(EDINGER STORM CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS)

PROJECT PROPOSAL:

General Plan Conformance No. 09-001 represents a request, pursuant to Section 65402 of the California Government Code, by the City of Huntington Beach Public Works Department to determine if proposed improvements to the Edinger Storm Channel are in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan. The existing storm channel receives and directs storm water collected from portions of the I-405 freeway and developed areas within the Cities of Huntington Beach, Westminster, and the unincorporated Midway City area. The Orange County Flood Control District has determined that the Edinger Storm Channel does not currently provide the desired level of flood protection, and the proposed improvements are a part of the ultimate channel improvements to the East Garden Grove – Wintersburg Channel system. The proposed improvements should eventually result in a reduction of the flood plain in the surrounding area.

Approximately 1830 linear feet of existing storm channel infrastructure is within the City limit of Huntington Beach, located northeast and immediately adjacent to the I-405 freeway between Newland Street and Edinger Avenue. The remaining project area is located within the City of Westminster. The Orange County Public Works Department is simultaneously requesting General Plan conformance review from both cities and will acquire additional construction and encroachment permits as necessary.

Construction activities within the City Limit of Huntington Beach that will expand the storm water runoff capacities include:

- Expanding the existing trapezoidal channel between Newland Street and Edinger Avenue to a 20 foot wide by 10 foot high Reinforced Concrete ‘U’ channel (Attachment 3.5)
- Installation of two additional 66-inch diameter Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) culverts adjacent to an existing 63-inch culvert under the I-405 freeway at Newland (Attachment 3.6)
- Removing an existing 63-inch RCP culvert under Edinger Avenue and replacing it with a 9-foot by 9-foot Reinforced Concrete Box culvert, thereby eliminating an existing hydraulic constriction (Attachment 3.7)

ISSUES:

Subject Property And Surrounding Land Use, Zoning And General Plan Designations:

LOCATION	GENERAL PLAN	ZONING	LAND USE
Subject Area:	ROW (Right of Way)	ROW	Existing Edinger Storm Channel
North and East of Subject Area:	RMH – 25 (Residential Medium High Density – Max. 25 dwelling units/acre)	RMH – FP2 (Residential Medium High Density – Floodplain Overlay)	Apartment Complex
South and West of Subject Area:	ROW	ROW	I-405 Freeway

General Plan Conformance:

The only issue to consider as part of this request is the proposed storm channel improvement project and its conformance to the City's General Plan. The construction project proposed for the purpose of improving the existing Edinger Storm Channel conforms to the following goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan:

Utilities Element

Goal U 3: Provide a flood control system which is able to support the permitted land uses while preserving the public safety; upgrade deficient systems; and pursue funding sources to reduce the costs of flood control provision in the City.

Objective U 3.1: Ensure that adequate storm drain and flood control facilities are provided and properly maintained in order to protect life and property from flood hazards.

Policy U 3.1.1: Maintain existing public storm drains and flood control facilities; upgrade and expand storm drain and flood control facilities.

Policy U 3.1.2: Coordinate with County agencies to improve the County's facilities.

The proposed improvements to the existing Edinger Storm Channel will provide an increased flow capacity of storm water runoff, thereby reducing the risk of overflow and subsequent damages to the areas surrounding and serviced by the channel. The project will allow inter-agency coordination associated with storm channel maintenance and upgrade construction to provide adequate drainage and flood protection to areas north of the I-405 freeway between Beach Boulevard and Newland Street in the cities of Huntington Beach, Westminster, and the Midway City neighborhoods.

Zoning Compliance: Not applicable.

Urban Design Guidelines Conformance: Not applicable.

Environmental Status:

The General Plan conformance review is categorically exempt pursuant to Section 15306, Class 6 of the California Environmental Quality Act, which states that information collection which does not result in major disturbance to an environmental resource is exempt from any environmental review.

Coastal Status: Not applicable.

Redevelopment Status: Not applicable.

Design Review Board: Not applicable.

Subdivision Committee: Not applicable.

Other Departments Concerns and Requirements:

No comments regarding General Plan Conformance No. 09-001 have been received from other City departments or agencies.

Public Notification:

General Plan Conformances are non-public hearing items and do not require legal notification.

Application Processing Dates:

DATE OF COMPLETE APPLICATION:

February 17, 2009

MANDATORY PROCESSING DATE(S):

March 28, 2009 (within 40 days of submittal)

ANALYSIS:

Section 65402 of the California Government Code requires that a local planning agency review any public structure to be constructed or authorized, in this case proposed improvements to an existing storm channel, for conformance with the local General Plan. The construction activity as proposed will allow inter-agency coordination for the purpose of upgrading existing storm channel infrastructure to provide greater flood protection and water drainage to the project's surrounding areas.

Staff has identified goals, objectives, and policies which are applicable to the request in the General Plan Conformance section of this staff report. Because the proposed Edinger Storm Channel improvement project furthers the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan, staff recommends the Planning Commission approve General Plan Conformance No. 09-001 finding that the improvement project is in conformance with the General Plan.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Suggested Findings of Approval – GPC No. 09-001
2. Planning Commission Resolution No. 1630
3. Project Narrative Dated January 30, 2009

SH:HF:RR:HB:lw

ATTACHMENT NO. 1

SUGGESTED FINDINGS OF APPROVAL

GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 09-001

SUGGESTED FINDINGS FOR PROJECTS EXEMPT FROM CEQA:

The Planning Commission finds that the proposed project will not have any significant effect on the environment and is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15306 of the CEQA Guidelines because the project involves information collection which does not result in major disturbance to an environmental resource.

SUGGESTED FINDINGS FOR APPROVAL – GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 09-001:

The proposed upgrades to the existing Edinger Storm Channel for the purpose of providing the desired level of flood protection is consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the City's General Plan and the Land Use Element designation of Right of Way on the subject property. The following goals, objectives and policies pertain to the proposed storm channel improvements:

Utilities Element

Goal U 3: Provide a flood control system which is able to support the permitted land uses while preserving the public safety; upgrade deficient systems; and pursue funding sources to reduce the costs of flood control provision in the City.

Objective U 3.1: Ensure that adequate storm drain and flood control facilities are provided and properly maintained in order to protect life and property from flood hazards.

Policy U 3.1.1: Maintain existing public storm drains and flood control facilities; upgrade and expand storm drain and flood control facilities.

Policy U 3.1.2: Coordinate with County agencies to improve the County's facilities.

The proposed improvements will provide an increased flow capacity of storm water runoff, thereby reducing the risk of overflow and subsequent damages to the areas surrounding and serviced by the channel. The project will allow inter-agency coordination associated with storm channel maintenance and upgrade construction to provide adequate drainage and flood protection to areas north of the I-405 freeway between Beach Boulevard and Newland Street in the cities of Huntington Beach, Westminster, and the Midway City neighborhoods.

RESOLUTION NO. 1630

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH FINDING PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE
EXISTING EDINGER STORM DRAIN CHANNEL
IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE GOALS, OBJECTIVES,
AND POLICIES OF THE GENERAL PLAN
(GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 09-01)**

WHEREAS, the Government Code of the State of California, Section 65402, provides that a local planning agency review any public structure to be constructed or authorized for conformity with the local General Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department has submitted a request for General Plan Conformance review of proposed construction improvements to an existing storm drain channel and associated infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, staff has reviewed a description of the improvement project and submitted it to the Planning Commission for review on March 24, 2009; and

WHEREAS, staff has indicated applicable General Plan goals, objectives, and policies to establish conformance with the General Plan (Exhibit A).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Planning Commission of the City of Huntington Beach finds the proposed improvements to the existing Edinger Storm Channel for the purposes of providing greater flood protection and water drainage capacity in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Planning Commission of the City of Huntington Beach at a regular meeting held on the 24th day of March 2009, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Speaker, Farley, Shier-Burnett, Scandura, Livengood, Delgleize, Mantini
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

ATTEST:

Scott Hess, Secretary

Planning Commission Chairperson

EXHIBIT A

GENERAL PLAN GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES FOR PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EXISTING EDINGER STORM CHANNEL (GENERAL PLAN CONFORMANCE NO. 2009-001)

The cooperative agreement between agencies to improve the existing Edinger Storm Channel conforms to the following goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan:

Utilities Element

Goal U 3: Provide a flood control system which is able to support the permitted land uses while preserving the public safety; upgrade deficient systems; and pursue funding sources to reduce the costs of flood control provision in the City.

Objective U 3.1: Ensure that adequate storm drain and flood control facilities are provided and properly maintained in order to protect life and property from flood hazards.

Policy U 3.1.1: Maintain existing public storm drains and flood control facilities; upgrade and expand storm drain and flood control facilities.

Policy U 3.1.2: Coordinate with County agencies to improve the County's facilities.

The proposed improvements to the existing Edinger Storm Channel will provide an increased flow capacity of storm water runoff, thereby reducing the risk of overflow and subsequent damages to the areas surrounding and serviced by the channel. The project will allow inter-agency coordination associated with storm channel maintenance and upgrade construction to provide adequate drainage and flood protection to areas north of the I-405 freeway between Beach Boulevard and Newland Street in the cities of Huntington Beach, Westminster, and the Midway City neighborhoods.

JAN 14 2009

Mr. Travis Hopkins, PE
Public Works Director
City of Huntington Beach
2000 Main St.
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

SUBJECT: Request for General Plan Conformity – Edinger Storm Channel (Facility No. C05S05) from East Garden Grove-Wintersburg Channel (EGGW - Facility No. C05) to 1765 feet Upstream of Edinger Avenue

Dear Mr. Hopkins:

The Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD) requests that the City of Huntington Beach adopt a resolution addressing the conformity of the proposed Edinger Storm Channel improvement project with its General Plan.

The State of California Government Code, Section 65402, stipulates that a local agency, such as OCFCD, shall not construct public works projects in any city until the location, purpose, and extent of such works have been submitted to the planning agency having jurisdiction and the conformity to the city's adopted General Plan is reported.

The following provides a background of the project and description of the existing channel and proposed improvements:

Background

The existing Edinger Storm Channel begins downstream at East Garden Grove - Wintersburg Channel as a 63-inch Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) culvert and extends upstream under the I-405 freeway. The channel then transitions to an open concrete-lined trapezoidal channel immediately upstream of I-405. The channel parallels the freeway in a northwesterly direction, transitions to a 63-inch RCP culvert under Edinger Avenue, and then transitions back to an open concrete-lined trapezoidal channel upstream of Edinger Avenue. The channel continues upstream, paralleling the I-405 Beach Boulevard off ramp until it joins the Midway City Drain adjacent to Beach Boulevard. The existing 63-inch RCP culverts and open concrete-lined trapezoidal channel do not currently provide the desired level of flood protection.

This project is part of the ultimate channel improvements to the EGGW Channel (C05) system. Edinger Storm Channel was initially constructed in 1963 to provide drainage to portions of I-405

and to serve the area from I-405 north to Hazard Avenue, between Beach Boulevard and Newland Street in the cities of Huntington Beach, Westminster, and the unincorporated Midway City area. Overflows from the channel may affect areas along the channel. Following ultimate improvements to the channel system, the proposed channel improvements will convey the 100-year discharges.

The project limits are from EGGW Channel to 1765 feet upstream of Edinger Avenue. The project will be constructed within OCFCD right-of-way and a small portion of the City of Huntington Beach and the City of Westminster right-of-way under Edinger Avenue.

Proposed Improvements

The proposed improvements will include the construction of two additional 66-inch RCP culverts under I-405 adjacent to the existing 63-inch RCP culvert. A double barrel 9 feet wide by 9 feet high Reinforced Concrete Box culvert will also be constructed under Edinger Avenue, replacing the existing 63-inch RCP culvert in order to eliminate the hydraulic constriction at Edinger Avenue. The existing trapezoidal channel downstream of Edinger Avenue will be replaced with a 20 feet wide by 10 feet high Reinforced Concrete 'U' channel. The existing channel upstream of Edinger Avenue will be replaced with a 20 feet wide by 9 feet high Reinforced Concrete 'U' channel from Edinger Avenue to 1765 feet upstream of Edinger Avenue in order to accommodate proposed improvements to the Midway City Storm Drain and Street Improvements Project. Since a majority of the discharges currently flowing through Midway City Drain will be re-routed through a proposed connection to Edinger Storm Channel 1720 feet upstream of Edinger Avenue, the remaining upstream portion of Edinger Storm Channel will not require improvement.

The construction of the proposed culverts under I-405 will require construction access from Woodruff Street into EGGW Channel and from Newland Street into Edinger Storm Channel. A temporary ramp may be constructed in EGGW Channel at Woodruff Street to allow access for construction of the culverts. Additionally, access to the receiving end of the proposed I-405 culvert construction will be required via a temporary access ramp off of the south bound lane of Newland Street into Edinger Storm Channel just north of the Newland Street/ I-405 Overcrossing. OCFCD will obtain an encroachment permit for construction of the temporary access ramp within the City of Westminster right-of-way. OCFCD is also seeking a temporary construction easement across private property (The Huntington Apartments) for construction of the I-405 culverts. Additionally, OCFCD is in the process of obtaining an encroachment permit from Caltrans for construction within Caltrans right-of-way including encroachment onto the northbound shoulder of I-405 from Newland Street to Beach Boulevard and on the south bound shoulder near Newland Street.

The City of Westminster owns and maintains the northern half of the eastern I-405/Edinger Avenue Overcrossing approach ramp, while the City of Huntington Beach owns and maintains the southern half of the approach ramp. OCFCD will obtain encroachment permits from both cities for construction of the proposed culvert under Edinger Avenue. The existing access to the upstream reach of Edinger Avenue is located on Crown Court. In an effort to reduce construction traffic through residential neighborhoods, OCFCD is seeking a temporary construction easement across Southern California Edison property which abuts Edinger Storm Channel at the upstream end of the project.

Schedule

Completion of the design of this project is scheduled for November 2009 with advertisement and construction to follow. Construction is expected to begin in April 2010 with completion by April 2011. Prior to construction, our contractor will be required to obtain all the necessary permits from the City.

Please provide a finding as to conformity with the City of Huntington Beach's General Plan. A sample resolution is enclosed to assist the Planning Commission if needed. When approved, please forward two certified copies of the Commission's action to this office.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter. If your staff have any questions regarding this request or need additional information, please call Charles Busslinger, at 714-834-2318 or Ron Gaut, at 714-834-2790.

Sincerely,

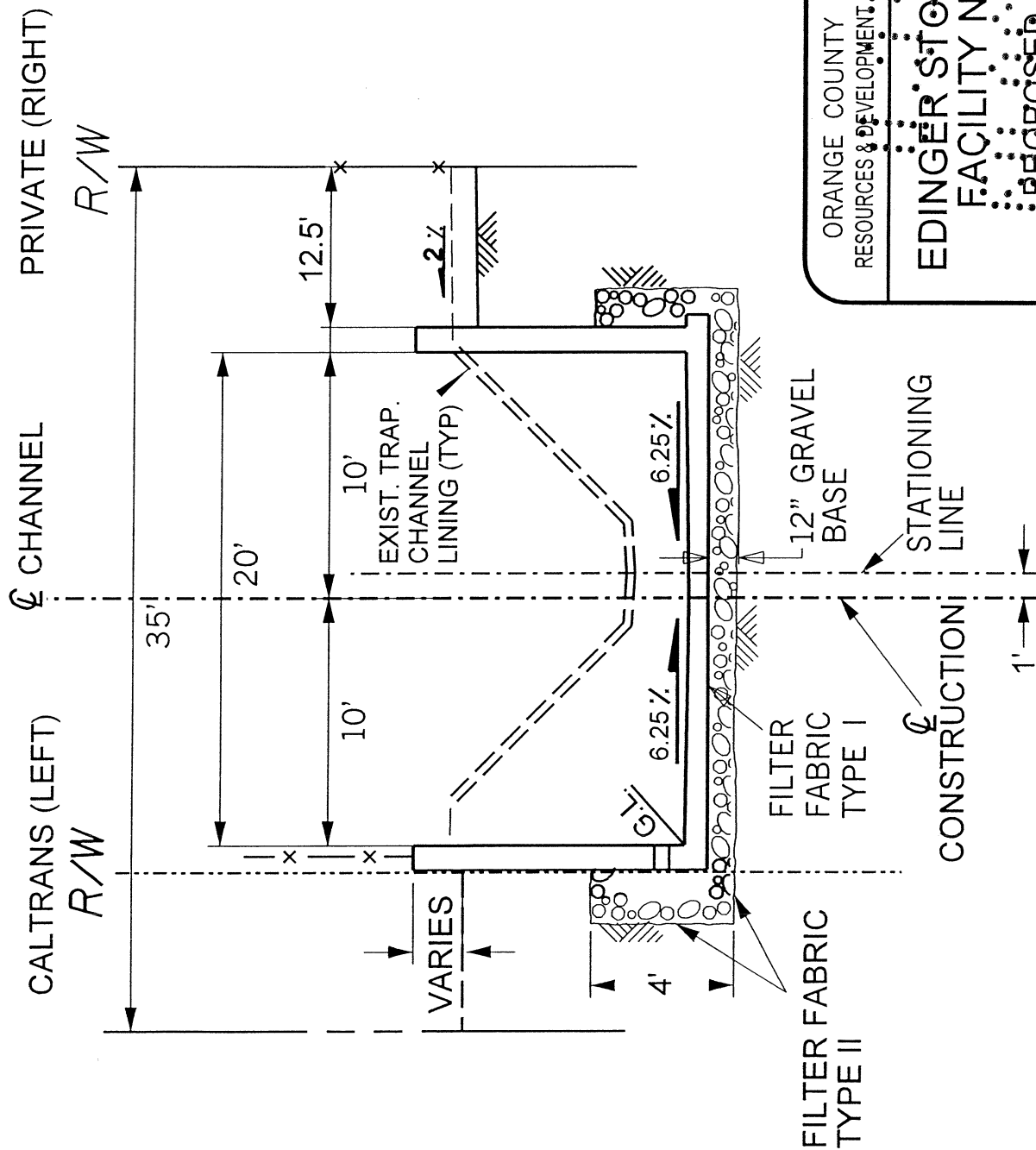


Nadeem Majaj, P.E.
Assistant Chief Engineer

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Attachments: Location Map
Typical Sections
Sample Resolution

cc: Kevin Onuma, P.E., Manager, PW/Flood Control Division
Phil Jones, P.E., Manager, PW/FCD/Flood Control Design
Mehdi Sobhani, P.E., Manager, PW/FCD/Flood Programs
Ron Gaut, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer, PW/FCD/Flood Control Design



ORANGE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
RESOURCES & DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

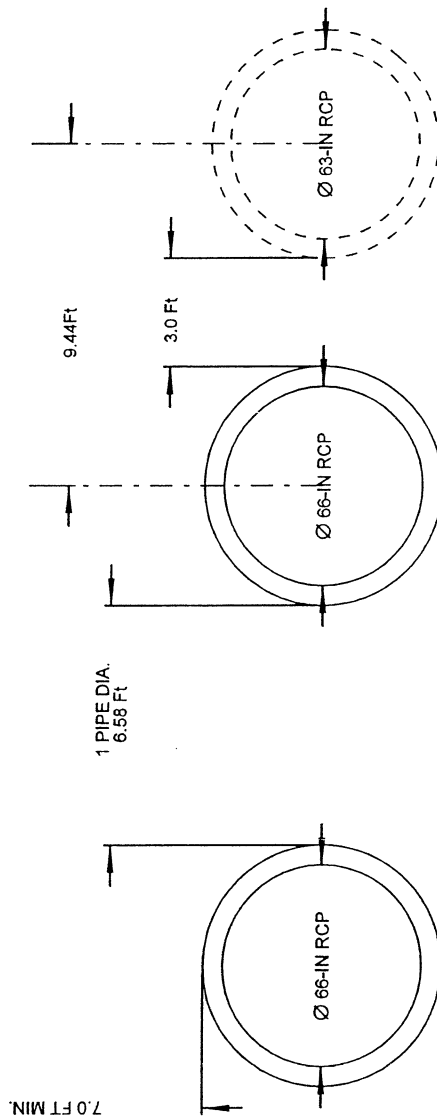
EDINGER STORM CHANNEL
FACILITY NO. C05S05
PROPOSED - U CHANNEL
TYPICAL SECTION

NOT TO SCALE | NOVEMBER 7, 2008

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TOP OF PAVEMENT



LOOKING UPSTREAM

ORANGE COUNTY

Public Works

EDINGER STORM CHANNEL
FACILITY NO. C05S05

PROPOSED RCPs UNDER I-405

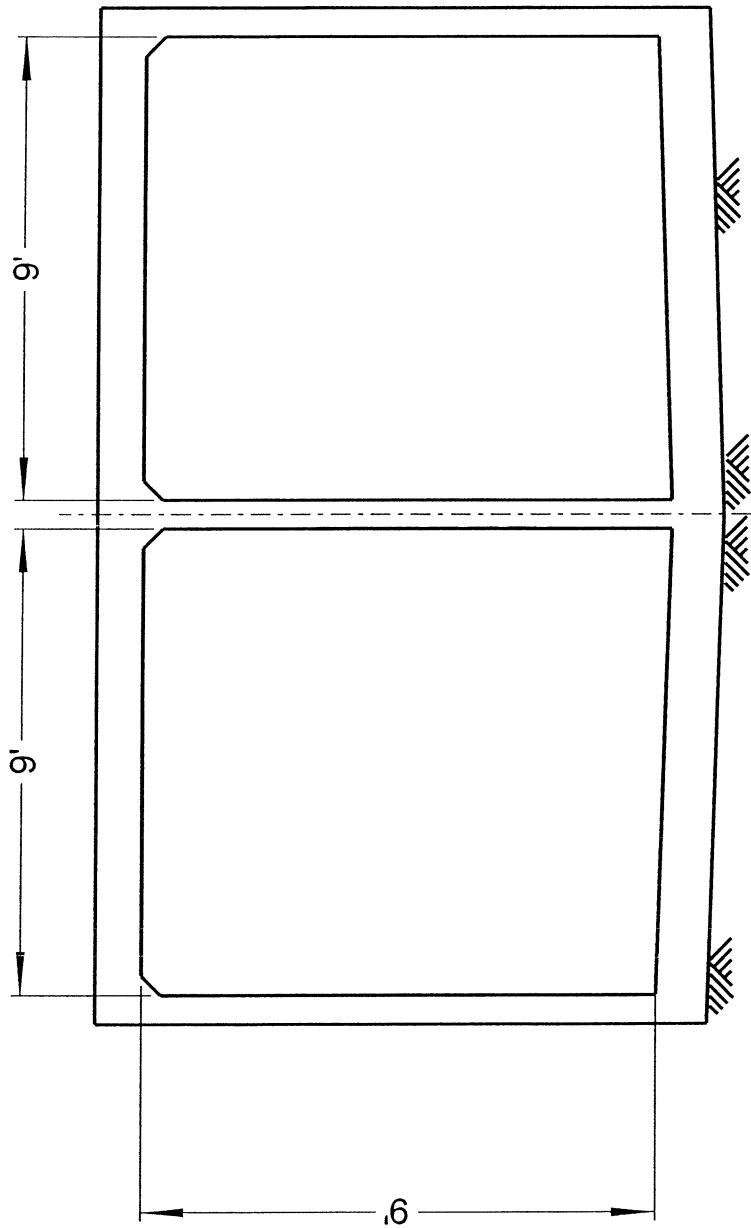
TYPICAL SECTION

NOT TO SCALE

JUNE 24, 2008

ATTACHMENT NO.

3.6



ORANGE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
OC PUBLIC WORKS

EDINGER ST. STORM CHANNEL
FACILITY NO: C05S05
PROPOSED DOUBLE 9' X 9' RCB
UNDER EDINGER AVE.
TYPICAL SECTION:

NOT TO SCALE | NOVEMBER 7, 2008

ATTACHMENT NO. 37